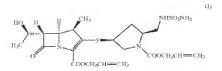
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

 (Currently amended) A <u>2-propanol</u> solvate of the compound (I) of the formula:



or a crystal thereof, the solvate chosen from the solvates of 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 2-pentanol, 1-pentanol, and t-amyl alcohol.

- 2. (Canceled)
- (Canceled)
- 4. (Amended) The crystal according to claim 3 1 wherein the content of 2-propanol is 0.1 to 2 moles per mole of the compound (I).
- (Amended) The crystal according to claim 3 1 wherein the content of 2-propanol is 0.5 mole per mole of the compound (I).
- 6. (Previously presented) The crystal according to claim 1 which has a powder X-ray diffraction pattern using CuK α radiation whose characteristic peaks appear as the spacing (d) of 12.80, 11.21, 4.75, 4.58, 4.28 angstrom.

Claims 7-14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for producing the compound according to claim 1 which comprises dissolving the compound (I) or the solvate in a dissoluble solvent and adding an indissoluble solvent thereto;

the dissoluble solvent being selected from methanol, ethanol, ethyleneglycol, methoxyethanol, glycerol, propyleneglycol, dioxane, tetrahydrofuran, dimethoxyethane, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl formate, ethyl formate, propyl formate, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, propyl acetate, butyl acetate, methyl propionate, ethyl propionate, dichloromethane, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, 1,2-dichloroethane, trichloroethane, benzene chloride, dichlorobenzene, acetonitrile, propionitrile, dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, N-methyl pyrrolidinone, quinoline, pyridine, or a mixture of two or more thereof, optionally in combination with water; and

the indissoluble solvent being selected from 2-propanol, 2-pentanol, 1-pentanol, 1-amyl-alcohol, 1-propanol, or a mixture of two or more thereof.

- 16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15 which comprises dissolving the compound (I) or the solvate in ethyl acetate and adding the indissoluble solvent thereto.
- 17. (Currently amended) A method for producing the compound (II) of the formula:

HO R
$$\frac{H}{2}$$
 CH₄ NHSO₂NH₂ $\frac{H}{2}$ $\frac{C}{COOH}$

or a solvate or a crystal thereof, comprising deprotecting a solvate of the compound (I) or a crystal thereof according to claim 1.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, which comprises obtaining a crystal of the compound (I) or the solvate by dissolving the compound (I) or solvate in a dissoluble solvent and adding an indissoluble solvent thereto and deprotecting the crystal;

the dissoluble solvent being selected from methanol, ethanol, ethanol, ethyleneglycol, methoxyethanol, glycerol, propyleneglycol, dioxane, tetrahydrofuran, dimethoxyethane, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl formate, ethyl formate, propyl formate, methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, propyl acetate, butyl acetate, methyl propionate, ethyl propionate, dichloromethane, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, 1,2-dichloroethane, trichloroethane, benzene chloride, dichlorobenzene, acetonitrile, propionitrile, dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, N-methyl pyrrolidinone, quinoline, pyridine, or a mixture of two or more thereof, optionally in combination with water; and

the indissoluble solvent being selected from 2-propanol, 2-pentanol, 1-pentanol, 1-amyl-alcohol, 1-propanol, or a mixture of two or more thereof.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein a monohydrate crystal of the compound (II) is produced.